LPG Agency and Petrol pump at Bhikiyasain in Almora District

2759. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no LPG agency and petrol pump at Tehsil headquarter of Bhikiyasain in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam has assessed or propose to assess the requirement of Bhikiyasain tehsil head-quarter and its adjoining villages such as Basot, Bhatraunjkhan, Masi, Sadar, Machhour, etc. in order to open LPG agency and petrol pump there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and by when the said assessment is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Retail Outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships are opened at places meeting Industry's viability norms. However, in remote low potential areas of Kumon, LPG extension points have been allowed through Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam. IOC has opened extension counters at Bhikiyasain, Basot and Bhatraunjkhan through M/s Ranikhet Gas Agency.

Government is not aware whether Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam has assessed or proposes to assess the requirement of LPG agency and petrol pumps at these locations. However, the Nigam has submitted a proposal to open LPG extension counters at Masi, Sadar and Machhour. Based on Oil Industry's feasibility surveys, Bhikiyasain is proposed to be included in the RO Marketing Plan 1996-98.

Use of LPG as Auto Fuel

2760. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to use LPG as auto fuel;

(b) if so, when the schemes is likely to be implemented; and

(c) what would be the per km. cost of running different vehicles of LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The various recommendations are under study at present. The recommendations have to be examined in consultation with concerned Ministries and organisations.

Black Marketing of LPG Cylinders

2761. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that LPG cylinders are being openly blackmarketed by Krishna Enterprises of Hindustan Petroleum; Upper Bazar Modinagar, district Ghaziabad.

(b) whether it is a fact that home delivery of cylinders is not made by the dealer and consumers have to collect cyliners from the agency themselves;

(c) if so, whether Government would enquire into the matter; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. is not having any LPG distributorship in the name and style of M/s Krishna Enterprises at Upper Bazar, Modinagar Distt. Ghaziabad.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.